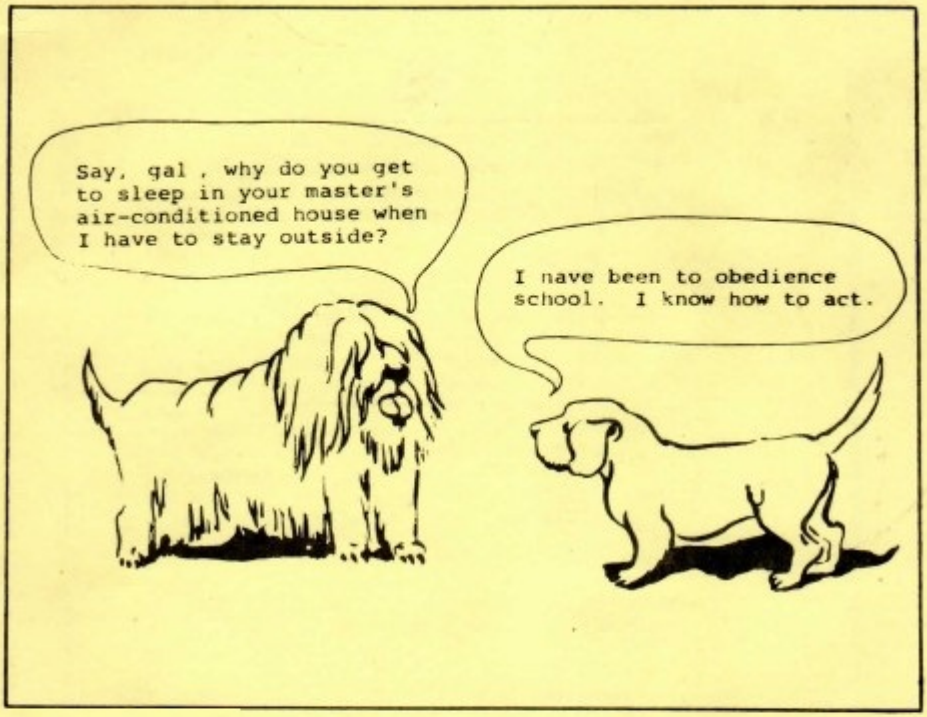
OBEDIENCE TRAINING

FOR THE BEGINNING NOVICE


Say, gal, why do you get to sleep in your master's air-conditioned house when I have to stay outside?
I have been to obedience school. I know how to act.

992-4863

BY
W. "ROBBY" ROBBINS

W. "Robby" Robbins
3106 East St. Johns Road
Phoenix, Arizona

Dear Friend:

You have just begun a ten-week course in Obedience Training. During the next few weeks both you and your dog will gain new respect for each other. An obedient dog is a more enjoyable and more valuable pet. It will readily obey every member of the family and can be handled by anyone who is familiar with the obedience training exercises.

In class, we will teach eight exercises: Heel, Sit, Stay, Down, Come, Finish, Stand, and the Figure 8. The first two exercises, Heel and Sit, will be taught for the first two weeks; after that we add one new exercise each week through the eight weeks. The ninth week is review and the tenth week is graduation. Each dog and handler is scored, and the top scoring dog receives a trophy to go along with his diploma.

You are entitled to one individual free lesson at my home sometime during the course. Please call and make arrangements if you desire the individualized instruction.

Very truly yours,

Robby

EQUIPMENT

FOR LESSONS 1,2,3, 7 AND 8 YOU WILL NEED:

(1) A strong, non-stretchable lead, six feet long with heavy snap, and

(2) A fine link choke chain that will just barely go over the dog's head. Sometimes it is possible to tie a knot in the middle of the choke chain to make it shorter.

(3) Avoid loose clothing that obscures the dog's vision, inhibits his freedom of movement, or annoys him. Do not wear long coats, circular skirts. Walking shoes are a must and leather or pigskin gloves are a great help, particularly when handling large, heavy dogs.

FOR LESSON 4 YOU WILL NEED:

(1) A 50-foot clothesline rope for large dogs or a 50-foot heavy cord for small dogs plus

(2) A pair of leather gloves

FOOD AND TIDBITS

Except for the very young puppy, tidbits are not recommended and their use is frowned on in class periods. The use of tidbits will be discussed during class periods as there is a place for the use of food in training.

WHERE AND WHEN TO TRAIN

At first, only one person should do the training. Take your dog far enough away from the other dogs, children, mom or dad, or other things that will distract him so that you can hold his attention. Take him to the same place every time you train. Later, in order to give him confidence under all conditions vary his place of work by choosing a park, school grounds or street, etc. Later, have other members of the family do the training so that your pet will be obedient to all family members.

My three year old daughter, Julie, is allowed to work our obedience trained dogs. They seem to like it and so does Julie. My young sons, Bill Jr. and Daniel, both train and work with them. The dog's being young or old is no drawback if you are patient and follow the rules. If the regular trainer cannot make it to class, have someone else in your family bring your pet. In the final weeks of training, your dog should work around all members of the family, and any neighbors or guests that might drop by.

Each session should be no more than fifteen minutes, but it must be every day for good, reliable results. At first, a few minutes should be set aside for the handler to re-read the text for that lesson, and about five minutes after the training period should be allowed for play between the handler and the dog.

COMMUNICATION WITH YOUR DOG

The dog's mind is intuitive-----not logical. He does not have a sense of right and wrong, a moral code, or the ability to differentiate good and bad. He can remember and is provided with the ability to use the memory of one situation as it applies to another. He isn't stubborn by nature but offers resistance to our commands through (1) fear, (2) confusion, (3) lack of confidence, (4) to avoid the unpleasant, (5) to secure rest and comfort, (6) lack of understanding, (7) hysteria, (8) a low I.Q., (9) neurosis, and (10) hunger or passion. Analyze the reason for his resistance, then approach the resistance intelligently.

In the beginning, your dog will understand no words. He may look as though he knows what you are saying, but he does this in an effort to make you like him. When you start the training course, you also start teaching your dog the meaning of a few short, simple word-commands. Make these as simple as possible or you will only confuse him. He will understand your body movements and the tone of your voice better than he will understand your words. Be meticulous about the way you move and try to develop voice tones that will convey your meaning, whether it be command, correction or praise.

Don't drag your dog. To learn, the dog must initiate every movement in his own consciousness. He must decide "how" and "when" himself. You cannot teach the dog to sit at your side by placing him there with your hands or dragging him there with the leash. He must be made to walk to your side by himself. You cannot teach the dog to stay at your side by pulling him back. He must be made to stay there himself. You could never teach the dog to walk on his hind legs by holding him up by his paws. The dog must initiate a movement to learn it. Don't drag your dog.

CORRECTIONS

The best dog trainers are people who have practiced the lesson before they try to teach the dog. Each movement by the trainer must be deliberate. Above all, he must never, never lose his temper or quit before the dog has given in and does as requested. Think of yourself as a robot and be very mechanical in every way that you can.

In later exercises we will purposely create situations in class that will test your dog. Obedience training is not circus training; it is training that a dog willingly executes without tidbits. No dog is considered proficient until he will carry out each exercise on a single command; that means, you say "sit" once and he does it.

All exercises and all petting should be done from a standing position. While working your dog, do not pick him up. He should recognize by your manner that this is your time and he has to respond to your commands. Above all, he must learn to watch you and want to work for you. Pep-talk after every correction --- keep that tail wagging.

THE RIGHT WAY TO PUT ON THE COLLAR

Place it on the dog's neck so that, when he is sitting on your left side, the leash is fastened to the end of the chain that goes over the dog's neck, not under.

Incorrect

Correct

HOW TO HOLD THE LEASH

Always hold the leash in the right hand close to the body at the belt or waist line. The left hand is used for making the necessary corrections, such as pushing down on the rump when teaching "sit", or patting the dog. Either the right or left hand is used for jerking the leash for corrections.

BEGINNING NOVICE COMMANDS

The following commands have been selected for training the Beginning Novice.

(1)	Heel	(5)	Come	(8)	Good Boy or Good Girl
(2)	Sit	(6)	Stand	(9)	Bad Dog
(3)	Stay	(7)	No	(10)	OK
(4)	Down				

These words are your dog's vocabulary and every member of the family should use them to mean one single thing for the dog to do. For example, he will never be able to know the difference between "down", meaning not to jump up on someone or to get off the couch, as opposed to "lie down." The fact is, he might be sitting on the couch some night, and if you command "down" he will probably lie down and wag his tail. Do not punish him if this happens.

Three different tones of voice are used in training. The coaxing tone is used with the beginner when he does not understand; in other words, you sweet-talk him along (Example: "good boy"). The commanding tone is used when the dog knows what you want him to do. You merely give the command as if you would expect him to obey. The harsh, demanding voice is used when the dog understands the exercise but refuses to obey (Example: "b-a-a-a-d dog"). If you use these three voices when they are necessary, your dog will learn <u>much</u> quicker.

The most important thing for you to do and remember is: ALWAYS BE CONSISTENT. In order not to confuse your dog, always use the same words. Do not say "Bozo, come", then "Bozo, come over here", and then "Bozo, here". Repeat over and over the same commands until he understands. Don't move on to a new exercise until he understands all the preceding ones. It is better to be proficient in three exercises than not so good in four.

SPECIAL INSTRUCTIONS TO THE TRAINER

A dog learns through associating his act with pleasant results. He will want to repeat that which brings a pleasant reward or praise by his master. Correct the dog each time he makes a mistake; but do it quickly, be fast and consistent. It is confusing to any dog if you permit him to do a certain thing once or twice without correcting him, then later on punish him for doing the very same thing. Be gentle with a shy dog, but be severe with a stubborn one. Corrections are necessary; however, they should be mild during the first week but should get more severe during the next weeks. After each correction, and when you have the dog in the correct position, praise him and pet him.

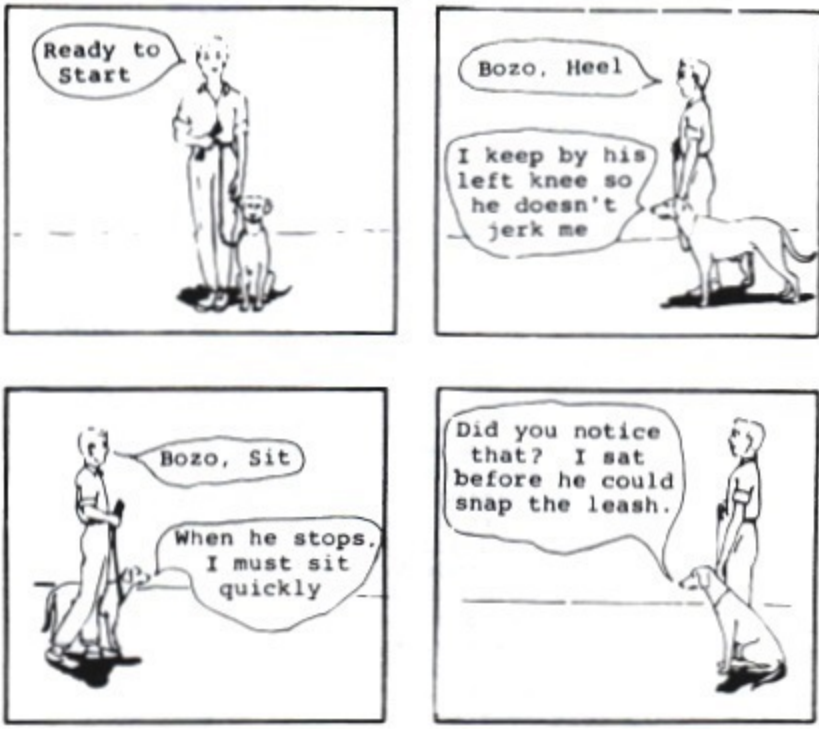
A sudden jerk on the training collar is all that is required for all corrections. While training, keep your hands off the dog as much as possible. If you grab at him with your hands repeatedly, he will begin to shy away from you when he sees your hand approaching.

EXERCISES 1 — HEEL SIT AND SIT STAY

Select an area that is large enough for you to walk in a fairly large square. Walk the square first by yourself, stopping every 8 to 10 feet. Practice saying "Bozo, heel"; then immediately step forward with the left foot at a brisk pace. Stop and say "sit". Hold the leash always in the right hand, waist high, close to the body. After practicing several rounds, remove all items that will distract the dog such as toys, other dogs, cats, children, etc.

Now, go get Bozo. Make sure the choke chain collar is on right. Attach the leash, and walk Bozo up to your starting point. When he is standing quietly by your left side, you are ready to begin. Say "Bozo, heel", step forward with your left foot as if you were a mechanical man and move out at a brisk pace. If he does not go with you, rapidly apply several sudden jerks until he is walking with you. Do <u>not</u> pull him, always remember to jerk or snap him. A stubborn or outgoing dispositioned dog will require a more severe jerk than a soft or withdrawn dispositioned dog. Stop after a few feet, hold the leash up by the right hand and use the left one to push down on the hind quarters. If you pinch in on each side with the thumb and middle finger just in front of the hip bones, he will sit more quickly as this pressure acts upon a small response nerve. Make sure he sits with his head next to your left knee and just ahead. Pet him at this point by gently rubbing his ears, "g-o-o-o-d boy".

Now repeat "Bozo,heel", step forward with the left foot and jerk the choke chain as required to insure that he walks beside you with his head near your left knee. Go forward only 8 to 10 feet; if he is heeling nicely, praise him by talking in a sweet voice "good boy". Stop and repeat the sit exercise by holding up the leash with the right hand and pushing down on his hind quarters with the left. Ten minutes is enough for the first day. Don't forget to excuse your dog by saying "OK" when the training period is over. Now, play with him for a few minutes.


Ready to Start
Bozo, Heel
I keep by his left knee so he doesn't jerk me
Bozo, Sit
When he stops, I must sit quickly
Did you notice that? I sat before he could snap the leash.

When he will walk beside you with a loose leash and stop and start without any jerking or correction, you are now ready to try the "About Turn". Here you turn and reverse directions using a military type of turn. This is always done by turning to the right. The first time you try it, see if you can catch your dog "off guard". If you do, he will continue to go forward. When he is at the end of the leash while you go into the other direction, snap the leash to turn him around and get him up with you Praise him when he is in the proper position. Whatever you do, don't stop walking. Remember, the dog is with <u>you</u>. This sudden move will make your dog watch you and pay more close attention. The right turn and the left turn are sharply executed turns in either direction.

At the end of the first week do not say "sit". By this time it should be automatic. Remember, if he sits correctly the first time and the handler makes him repeat it each time just so, the final results will be much more satisfactory.

WHY STEP FORWARD WITH THE LEFT FOOT ?

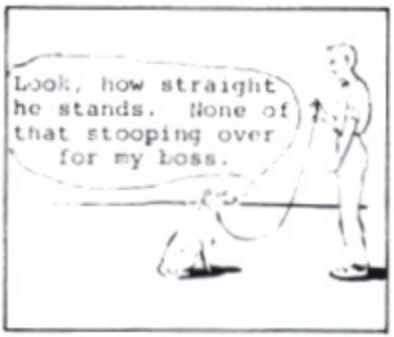
In the stay exercise, we will step out with the right foot. This little change will be noticed by the dog, and he will learn to stay more easily. Remember, as handler, you are teaching him the right way to do the exercise and to pay attention. The only commands or words that you should speak are: "Bozo, heel", "sit", "good boy", "no", "OK", and "b-a-a-a-d dog" when he goofs.

Another bit of advice. Get in some extra training by demanding that he sit beside you before you let him out. Walk up to the door, get Bozo on the left, and pull up on his collar. Then push down on his hips and make him sit for a few seconds before you open the door. As you open the door, hold the collar so he cannot break. Then say "OK" and release him. Do not try any exercise that you cannot force him to do. If he is free, do not yell "sit" or "heel", as he will soon tell the difference between when the leash is on or off and work accordingly. No exercise should be done off leash until you have discussed it with me.

EXERCISE 2 — STAY

Work your dog for a few minutes doing the heeling exercise. When he is settled down and working well (that is, sitting promptly every time you stop), you are ready to try the stay exercise.

Take your left hand and swing the palm downward toward the dog's nose (do not bend over, stand straight even though you have a small dog,. In a demanding voice say "stay", then step out with the right foot and walk to the end of the leash and face the dog. If your voice sounded mean and you started out on the right foot, the chances are that the dog will remain sitting. The first time stay only a few seconds, then return to him and pet the heck out of him. Repeat the exercise several times with a lot of heeling in between.



If your dog will not stay, tie a light cord the same length as your leash to a door knob or car bumper or tree and then repeat the exercise as above. Swing the palm of your hand toward his nose and say "stay". Step out with your right foot, but be prepared to repeat "stay" just when he hits the end of the cord. If necessary, tell him to sit. Now, the important thing with the extra cord is to fool your dog. As soon as he shows signs of understanding, take off the cord. If he starts to move toward you after a few seconds, throw up your hand as a warning and repeat, very firmly, "stay".

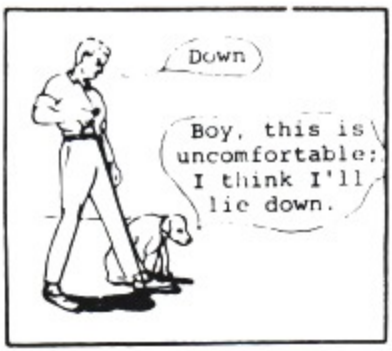
After a few days you should be ready to unsnap the leash and drop it on the ground beside your dog. When you first do this, keep the end of the leash in your hand and step out just as if it were still attached to your dog after saying "stay" very firmly. If he stays, walk farther away, but try to fool him into thinking that he is still attached to the leash.

If he moves, get him quickly and scold him while you take him back to the same spot. Don't be afraid to grab the leash and make him feel uncomfortable by one or two quick jerks during the correction. You must have this exercise down pat before you try to recall; therefore, it is very important to practice it a lot. Remember, in class, we will expect you to leave your dog and for him to stay put.

EXERCISE 3 – DOWN

To teach the exercise "Down", provide sufficient slack in the leash so that it touches the ground. Place your foot over the leash and slowly pull up so that the dog's neck is pulled towards the ground. Pull very slowly and repeat the command "down" very calmly. As soon as he is in the down position, pet him and praise him. Heel a few steps and repeat the exercise.

If your dog doesn't go down quickly and willingly after a few lessons, allow the leash to be a couple of inches from the ground and quickly stamp your foot on it. This is the same as a quick jerk and is much better than the slow pull. Remember that you should not try this without the leash until your dog is very dependable.



EXERCISE 4 — RECALL OR COME

This is the most important exercise that is taught. It is very important that you follow the instructions just as they are written.

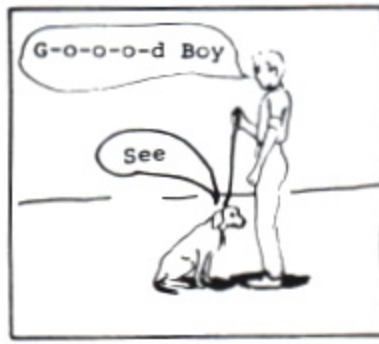
Heel your dog for a few minutes, then put him on the sit-stay. Walk to the end of the leash and face the dog. In a pleasant voice say "Bozo, come" and then give one jerk on the leash to bring the dog toward you. Pat your leg and repeat "Bozo, come" in a very pleasant tone of voice until he is straight in front of you and in a sitting position. You probably will have to tell him to sit.

"Bozo, come" means two things; it means, come on the run and to sit in front of you. Never settle for anything else.

After you have perfected "Bozo, come" while on leash—this means he does not need a jerk—you are ready to try it off leash. Unsnap the leash and drop it close to the dog and walk about the same distance. When you say "Bozo, come" jerk the leash as if he were still attached. Repeat this several times, but do not take the leash off each time. Insist that he sit, but be very gentle; do not overly correct him.

Once this is accomplished, you are ready for the long lead. Attach it and just let your dog work out to its very end. When he is busy sniffing or looking at somebody, give the command "Bozo, come" and jerk the long lead hard enough to turn him around so that he is facing you. Immediately pat your legs and in a very pleasant tone say "Bozo, come" and "good boy" as he approaches you. If he looks confused and does not move, talk to him excitedly and take a few quick steps backwards. If necessary, pull him toward you. Always make it very pleasant for him when he is sitting in

front of you. Do not over-correct him. Remember, he must want to come to you. Usually, three or four times with the long lead is enough. Otherwise the dog soon learns that he must come only when the long lead is on. A good working dog can actually be called away from other dogs, cats, etc. If your dog has a particular weakness such as the dog on the corner or bolting out the front door, the long line treatment can be used to great advantage.



The recall is a difficult exercise. For this reason, you may want to take your free lesson on this subject. Feel free to call me and make the necessary arrangements. When you call your dog, never, no matter how tempted you may be, call him for punishment. Give him a "down" command and go to him instead. Never call him and repeatedly lock him up just as you have to go somewhere. It is much better to call him in a few minutes early and pet him a little rather than have him get the idea that he is being punished for something or to associate his coming with something unpleasant such as being locked up.

This is the only exercise for the Beginning Novice where I recommend using tidbits. Frequently, you can improve the dog's attitude toward coming by offering a piece of dog candy, hotdog or hamburger. Don't give it to him every time, only when he does a good job.

EXERCISE 5 – THE FINISH

The finish is signaled by the command "heel". When properly taught, the dog understands that he must go to the left side of his master and sit. While teaching this exercise, it is very important that the handler practices the steps before he tries it with his dog. Remember to be very mechanical in your actions. If you step quick and positive, your dog will also act accordingly. A snappy finish is very desirable.

There are two types of finishes, the "Roundabout" and the "Flip" or "Military Heel". Heavy footed dogs (Danes, German Shepherds, etc.) usually are taught the Roundabout and light footed dogs (Poodles, Dobies, etc.) the Flip. Select one method to teach your dog. Do not try to teach them both.

The Roundabout is taught by putting your dog on a sit-stay, walk to the end of the leash and command "Bozo, come". When he is sitting in front of you for a few seconds say "Bozo, heel". At this command he

ROUNDABOUT HEEL

should, because of his previous training, start to get up. At the same time, take one step backwards with the right foot, and with a short, snappy jerk pull him toward your right side. Pass the leash to your left in back of you and step forward one step, snap the leash and stop. He should be at your left side and sit automatically; if he does not, correct him immediately. Praise him and pet him, then repeat the exercise. (Do not finish him after each recall).

The other type of finish, the Flip or Military Heel, is taught by again putting your dog on the sit-stay, walk to the end of the leash and command "come". When he is sitting in front of you say "Bozo, heel" and step forward with your left foot toward your dog's left front foot. Then bring up your right foot and stop. If done properly, this will cause your dog to turn around and be sitting beside you. If necessary, use your left hand to straighten him up if he is still sitting crooked. Be very mechanical and practice the step before you try it with your dog. Always step quickly and your dog will move quickly.

MILITARY OR FLIP HEEL

EXERCISE 6 — STAND

Standing for examination in the show ring is a test for temperament. If your dog shies or growls, he is disqualified. At home, this is a very important exercise in that it is the one you use to comb or brush your dog, give him a bath or cut his nails. Be very patient but very firm.

When your dog is in the sitting position beside you, say "stand" very pleasantly; then pull up with your right hand, the one with the leash, and with your left hand reach over his back and lift up on his stomach. After he has learned to stand in a relaxed manner, command "stay" and step out in front of him for a second or two. Return by walking around your dog and stand as if you were ready to heel. Pet him and praise him. Repeat the exercise several times. As he gets better, do not bend over, but use your toe to encourage him to stand. Don't kick! In later exercises actually pull a slight amount on the leash to make sure he knows that "stand" means "stay put".

EXERCISE 7 — FIGURE 8

In the "Figure 8", two people stand 10 feet apart facing each other. You and your dog walk in a figure 8 pattern around the people and you are required to stop very close to them. The dog must sit and not sniff the strangers. He must move freely around the people or posts, as we call them, quietly and with dignity.

GRADUATION

At graduation we will conduct the class as if it were a regular obedience trial. Each handler will receive an arm band with a number and will do the following exercises. An independent judge will come down and grade both you and your dog on an individual basis.

1.	Heel on Leash and Figure 8	35 points
2.	Stand for Examination	30 points
3.	Recall and Finish	30 points
4.	Long Sit (1 Minute)	30 points
5.	Long Down (3 Minutes)	30 points
	TOTAL	155 points

This is always a lot of fun and you are welcome to invite your family and friends to attend. A trophy will be awarded to the top scoring dog and diplomas to all dogs completing the course.

Dad, we won!
Oh boy, I'll be sleeping inside from now on.

ADVANCED OBEDIENCE

If your dog has made reasonable progress, I recommend that you attend the advanced class. In this class we repeat the commands already learned and we also add "heeling free". You will actually learn a lot more, and there is a corresponding increase in the time spent actually working the dog in class. We set a very brisk pace during the class. All sorts of situations are created to test your dog, such as using another dog for a post in the Figure 8. If you are in doubt about attending, you are invited to come and watch. Some of the best dogs ever finishing this course were the ones that knew nothing when they started Beginning Novice. In many cases, the dogs that jump around and cause all sorts of problems in class and at home finish in the upper part of the class.

Remember, my technique is aimed at providing an obedient dog for the family. Some of my students with pure-bred dogs have taken this course and go on to win American Kennel Club Obedience degrees. If you are interested in showing your dog in obedience, you can obtain a free copy of the rules by writing to:

American Kennel Club
51 Madison Avenue
New York, New York 10010

Do not drag the dog. To learn, the dog must initiate every movement in his own consciousness. He must "decide" how and when" himself. You cannot teach the dog to sit at your side by placing him there with your hands or dragging him there with the leash. He must be made to walk there himself. You cannot teach the dog to stay back and at your side by pulling him back. He must be made to stay there himself. You could never teach the dog to walk on his hind legs by holding him up by his paws. The dog must initiate a movement to learn it. Don't drag your dog.

SHOCK AS A TRAINING TECHNIQUE

The dog has a one-track mind. He cannot harbor two ideas at the same time. If we are to teach him anything we must first drive his existing thoughts out. This is done by "shock". The simplest form of shock is the snap or jerk on the leash. This "snap" temporarily clears his brain and gives us an opportunity to inject a new idea. Other methods of shock are clapping the hands or making some other loud noise - speaking sharply. You cannot teach the dog anything while he is engrossed with some other idea.

YOU AS A TRAINER

Your success as a dog trainer will depend upon:

1. Your ability to analyze the things the dog does in the light of your growing knowledge of response stimuli.

2. The good trainer never holds a grudge against his dog but acknowledges every infraction by the dog as an error to be immediately corrected and forgiven and the routine corrective punishment followed by a reward.

3. The dog learns by rote and therefore can only become efficient through repetition. Repetition is <u>your</u> responsibility.

4. The dog does not have and never can attain human stature. He is a dog and will always think and act like a dog. Do not expect anything else of him and do not try to train him as though he were a human child. He can only be a dog. Be fair to him and do not expect him to learn like and respond as a human of any age.

Your efficiency as a trainer will depend upon how exact you are in your methods and techniques. It will pay you to practice the techniques alone and without the dog. Learn to handle the leash efficiently and to develop the voice inflections before you attempt to command the dog. Become perfect yourself and you will eliminate much of the confusion that besets your dog.

5. After forcing the dog into a sitting position a few times by this method, discontinue the push or pressure on the rump and just use the leash. Sometimes a sharp tap on the rump will help, as you say "sit" in a commanding tone. The dog should soon learn to sit automatically each time you stop. You can then discontinue the pull on the leash, the push on the rump, the sharp tap and the word "sit".
6. Should the dog fail to stop at once and moves in front of you, take a step forward to straighten him out and stop him by a quick jerk on the leash. If he makes this a habit, be alert and ready for the error by grabbing the leash with the left hand simultaneously with the bringing of the left foot into place. A sharp tug on the leash while he is still at your side will stop him before he gets too far to the front.
7. As the dog learns the exercises, eliminate all cues and aids.

DON'TS FOR BEGINNERS

1. Don't hold a tight leash. The leash must be loose at all times.

2. Don't expect your dog to understand the things you say to him. Limit your conversation to definite, planned cues and commands, words of praise and words of disapproval.

3. Don't expect your dog to learn these exercises in the class periods. These periods are only to teach you the techniques with the aid of your dog. You must teach the dog in the daily practice periods at home.

4. Don't work your dog off leash until he works perfectly on leash.

5. Never lose sight of the fact that your dog is working for your praise.

6. Never lose your temper or get "mad at" your dog.

7. Don't work your dog right after he has eaten.

8. Don't point your finger at him.

9. Don't snap your fingers or whistle in class periods.

10. Be patient, consistent, fair and work him every day.

WILLIAM H. "ROBBY" ROBBINS

OBEDIENCE TRAINING

DOG MASTERSHIP

It is the hereditary instinct of the dog to want a master. If you fail to assume the position of the "master" the dog will himself assume the role. The dog does not want you as an equal or as a chum and playmate but as a responsible leader, capable and willing to make the decisions and to give the commands. Don't let your dog down. Assume your rightful position of leadership and give your dog the confidence that only positive mastership can impart.

ASSOCIATION AND AFFECTION

Your dog craves companionship and prefers the association of humans to that of other dogs. Do not expect your dog to develop properly unless you keep him with you. The companion dog should be a reflection of his human companions and his development is only possible by constant association with humans. Keep your dog with you as much as possible. During play and periods of relaxation put your hands on him as often as you can. Fondle him and talk to him so that he will learn the significance of the inflections of your voice and ultimately the meaning of some of your words.

THE CHARACTER AND MIND OF THE DOG

The dog's mind is intuitive-----not logical. The dog is not impelled by a conscious sense of right and wrong, a moral code, or the ability to differentiate good and bad. A dog cannot utilize pure reason but he can remember and is provided with the ability to use the memory of one situation as it applies to another. The dog does not practice planned stubbornness but offers resistance to our commands through (1) fear (2) confusion (3) lack of confidence (4) to avoid the unpleasant (5) to secure rest and comfort (6) lack of understanding (7) hysteria (8) a low I.Q. (9) neurosis and (10) hunger or passion. Analyze the reason for your dog's resistance and approach the resistance intelligently.

COMMUNICATION

In the beginning the dog will understand no words. He may look as though he knows what you are saying but this is only one of the many ruses he resorts to in an effort to make you like him. When you start the training course, you also start teaching your dog the meaning of a few short, simple word-commands. Make these as simple as possible or you will only add to your dog's confusion.

Your dog will understand your body movements and the tone of your voice better than he will understand your words. Be meticulous about the way you move and try to develop voice tones that will logically convey your meaning.

1. Signals and body movements - When you wish the dog to accompany you make it a point to always start with the left foot. The movement of the left foot will become a recognized cue. When you are going to leave the dog start out with your right foot and he will quickly become aware of the fact that this means "stay". Practice turning about right and left, always making the movements in the same manner to help the dog understand. Try to develop the habit of training in rhythm.

2. Voice and inflection - The tone of voice means a great deal to the dog. By the inflection of the voice he determines your degree of satisfaction, your mood, his status, and what he is to do, and by your tone is either urged to action or pressed into inaction. A rising inflection excites him to move - a dropping inflection indicates inaction. A joyful tone indicates your pleasure and a slow, dropping tone indicates displeasure. Practice inflection and tone range for efficiency in training your dog. There are four "voices" in training (1) the voice of positive command (2) the voice of approval (3) the voice of disapproval and (4) the honeyed voice of persuasion.

PUNISHMENT AND REWARD

The early training of the dog is based on the principle of punishment and reward. The dog is punished for an unsatisfactory response and rewarded for a satisfactory one. For our purposes we will rely exclusively on two forms of punishment ----- (1) a sharp snap of the collar accomplished by a quick jerk of the leash; (2) a verbal reprimand in a depressing tone of voice. For this purpose it is a good idea to establish a definite phrase to indicate dissatisfaction, such as "bad dog" each of the words being said with a dropping inflection.

Striking the dog is valueless in training. It has never been possible to demonstrate any constructive training results from hitting the dog. Don't do it. Do not use "rolled up newspaper", do not hit the dog with the hand, do not use the leash as a whip. Do not hit the dog.

Do not choke the dog. There is no training value to a pull on the leash. Don't do it. The leash should never be tightened. The leash should be held in the right hand about waist high. Corrections (punishment) are accomplished by a quick snap of the loose leash.

EQUIPMENT

The stsandard equipment for the dog in these classes is as follows:

1. Slip Collar (often called a "choke collar")
   This is a chain with a ring on each end. Drop the chain through one of the rings and it becomes a chain noose.

   Slip this over the dog's head and around his neck. The leash is snapped to the loose ring so that when it is pulled the collar will tighten. Make sure that the collar is on in such a way that when the dog is at your left, the collar releases immediately when the leash is dropped.

2. The Leash
   A flat, strong, latigo leather leash of sufficient width and thickness to assure the safety of the dog.

   The leash should be 6 feet long with a halter-snap on one end and a loop on the other. Spring snaps and "French" snaps are not recommended.

3. Apparel
   Avoid loose clothing that obscures the dog's vision, inhibits his freedom of movement, or annoys him. Do not wear long coats, circular skirts. Walking shoes are a must and leather or pigskin gloves are a great help, particularly when handling large, heavy dogs.

4. Food and Tidbits
   Except for the very young puppy, tidbits are not recommended and their use is frowned on in class periods. The use of tidbits will be discussed during class periods as there is a place for the use of food in training.

TRAINING INSTRUCTIONS

1. Place dog at your left side in a sitting position, parallel to your stance.
2. Pick up the leash in your right hand and loop it for convenience. You are now ready to start the "heeling" exercise.
3. To start the dog, use a persuative tone of voice. Give the dog's name to gain his attention and follow it with the command "heel". As you say "heel", step off with the left foot in a sprightly manner, at once. Do not wait for your dog to start. You are the leader and must make the initial move.
4. When you are ready to stop, place the right foot and bring the left foot up into place beside the right. As you come to a halt, reach down with the left hand take the leash as close to the collar as you can, conveniently. Now reach down with the right hand and take hold of the snap and lift straight up to force the dog into a sitting position. If he does not get the idea at once, reach down with your left hand and put pressure on his hips, forcing him into a sitting position. Say "sit" in a positive, commanding tone of voice.

IN MEMORIUM

William (Robby) Robbins
1917 - 1994

Robby Robbins was a charter member of the Flagstaff Kennel Club and remained active in club activities and programs throughout his life. Robby's willingness to devote time and commitment to our membership in all matters of obedience training and competition endeared him to everyone. Throughout the years Robby served as a board member and in most officer positions, including president several times. He served numerous times as obedience chairman at our annual AKC shows. Additionally, Robby remained active in the obedience show circuit, competing and placing advanced titles on his beloved German Shepherds, Golden Retrievers and Australian Shepherds. Our club hereby lovingly dedicates this, our first back to back AKC show, in Robbys' memory. Our club will miss a person of such enormous dedication and integrity. May you find the Rainbow Bridge, Robby, we will miss you.